

Application No. 10/600,061
Amendment dated March 6, 2007
Reply to Office Action of December 6, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have reviewed and considered the non-final Office Action mailed on December 6, 2006, and the references cited therewith.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 1-19. Claim 20 stands rejected, and Applicants cancel Claim 20. Claim 19 is amended to correct a clerical error. Claims 1-19 are now pending in the application.

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants amend the specification to include a priority claim to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/128,567, filed April 9, 1999. Applicants have concurrently filed a Petition to Accept an Unintentionally Delayed Claim for Priority Under 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(6), a copy of which is included for the Examiner's reference. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment and priority claim upon granting of the Petition.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicants cancel claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer, and the Examiner's rejection of the claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is now moot.

Conclusion

If a Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) or an additional Petition for Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) is required, the petition is herewith made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fee to deposit account number 500326.

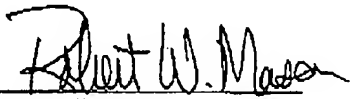
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment made with this Office Action, to Deposit Account Number 500326.

In light of all the foregoing, believing that all things raised in Examiner's non-final Office Action have been addressed, Applicants respectfully request a notice of

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allowance and passage of the application to issue. If the Examiner would care to discuss any remaining matters by phone, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at 210.255.6271.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicants

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